



News in brief

Death announcement

Col. Chris Miller, 509th Bomb Wing commander, regretfully announces the death of Airman 1st Class Michael Coleman, 509th Communications Squadron. Anyone having claims against or indebtedness to Airman Coleman's estate should call 1st Lt. Thomas Woodring, 509th Mission Support Group summary courts officer, at 687-5011.

Ozark Inn meal time changes

The Ozark Inn dinner meal is changed to 5- 7 p.m. Saturday and closed for the Saturday midnight meal. The dining facility will re-open at 7 a.m. Sunday, for normal operating hours.

Banquet scheduled

The 509th Bomb Wing's 2004 annual awards banquet begins 6 p.m. Feb. 25 at Mission's End. The menu is London broil, roasted new potatoes and green beans almandine. The cost is \$15 for senior airmen and below, \$17 for staff and technical sergeants and civilians, and \$20 for senior NCOs and officers. Nonmembers add \$2.

Attire is mess dress or semi-formal for military members, and coat and tie for civilians. Tickets are available from your squadron's first sergeant.

BCC luncheon set

The next base community council luncheon begins at noon March 3 at Mission's End. California, Mo., and Holden, Mo., are the featured communities. The menu is southwest chicken wrap with chips. The cost is \$8.50. Those interested in attending must R.S.V.P. by noon Feb. 28. No late R.S.V.P.s will be accepted. To R.S.V.P. or for more details, call 2nd Lt. Mary Olsen at 687-6121.

NSPS regulations now available

The National Security Personnel System proposed regulations are available for public review and comment now through March 16. Civilian employees and managers are encouraged to visit <https://intranet.whiteman.af.mil/509BW/509MSG/509MSS/dpc/civ.htm> to review these proposed regulations. For more details, call Ed Harris at 687-6475.



Photo by Senior Airman Neo Martin

'Thank you Whiteman'

Chief Master Sgt. Jeff Ledoux, 8th Air Force command chief master sergeant, talks with Staff Sgt. Kristy Crespo, 509th Operations Support Squadron air traffic control watch supervisor, during a visit Thursday. Chief Ledoux came here to talk with troops, gain their input and pass along the thanks of the 8th Air Force headquarters. "The 8th Air Force is a key element in the Global War On Terrorism. We handle many aspects of intelligence, command and control, and deterrence. The B-2 mission is a significant, strategic piece that offers a global strike capability," Chief Ledoux said. "I just want to make sure everyone here knows the 8th Air Force appreciates their work. No matter what your job is, we all support GWOT and together we will wipe out terrorism."

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Weather

Saturday
Mostly Cloudy



H 47°
L 32°

Sunday
Rainy



H 49°
L 36°

For more complete weather information, visit <https://www.whiteman.af.mil/509oss/osw/index.htm>. Courtesy of 509th OSS/OSW

Civilian Personnel wins ACC award

By Melissa Klinkner

Public Affairs

The 509th Mission Support Squadron Civilian Personnel Flight recently earned the Outstanding Satellite Civilian Personnel Flight Award for 2004. The achievement ranks as the best CPF in Air Combat Command's category for small bases.

To win this award, the CPF met several requirements such as innovation, initiative, program effectiveness, customer focus and accomplishments. In order to fulfill these categories, the CPF team looked inside and asked outside.

"We reviewed our internal processes by completing a CPF customer assessment to get feedback on what our customers like and don't like, and asked for suggestions," said Sharon Blindauer, 509th MSS civilian personnel officer.

Customer suggestions implemented by the CPF include making the process of updating training records smoother and creating an open-door policy.

Since her arrival to Whiteman more than a year ago, Mrs. Blindauer developed three main goals for the CPF members accessibility, accountability and communication to help them meet ACC expectations.

"We extended our visibility by conducting forums, commander's calls, in-house supervisor training and

opened a CPF Web site (<https://intranet.whiteman.af.mil/509BW/509MSG/509MSS/dpc/civ.htm>)," Mrs. Blindauer said.

She said she was pleased to have received the award. "It was extremely gratifying to see that ACC recognized all the staff has done."

Bethany Kermick, 442nd Fighter Wing personnel liaison in the 509th MSS CPF agreed.

"It was a great reward for all the hard work we've put in," Ms. Kermick said. "We contribute to the 509th Bomb Wing and 442nd FW by ensuring civilians have a place in the Air Force and have the resources they need to effectively complete the Air Force mission."

In contributing to the 509th BW and 442nd FW, the eight-person CPF performs personnel advisory services for commanders and managers, and services the civilian employees. Major functions of the CPF include classification, employee relations and labor management; however, they can also provide proactive reports and statistics on a unit's demographics, award history and training needs.

"The CPF is management's strategic partner in determining the needs of the mission. As personnel service transformation occurs, the local CPF will emerge as the wingman to commanders and managers on human capital needs," Mrs. Blindauer said.

COMMENTARY

Commander's Corner

By Col. Chris Miller

509th Bomb Wing Commander

DRINKING = DANGER. So far this year, seven of our fellow Airmen have been charged with driving under the influence of alcohol. Each of them lived through their bad choices. Each are facing, or have faced, disciplinary processes. None were seriously hurt, or hurt anyone else. The results could have been far different.

I'm more than concerned about this trend.

If you, or a friend, think drinking is mandatory to have fun here — think again. I've heard the complaints: we're a small base in a rural area. There's not enough to do. Kansas City is too far away. There's actually plenty to do — but some on our team turn to alcohol for fun, and that's simply dangerous.

Let me be clear: alcohol affects your judgment from the very first drink. The effect adds up quickly. A couple of beers or a couple of shots in an hour, and you're likely close to or over the legal blood alcohol limit for driving a car. The problem isn't just automobiles though. The same impaired judgment can lead to poor personal choices. Lives and careers are ruined when alcohol leads to vandalism and disorderly behavior, or more serious crimes like assault and rape. Plenty of jokes are made about the silly things drunk people do. The reality is no laughing matter. Far too many people going through our legal system are saying to themselves "If only I hadn't drank so

much."

Alcohol in moderation can be part of your plan ... but it can't be the only part. The plan has to account for how everyone will get safely home. It has to go beyond designated drivers. It needs to include wingmen — people who will still have their judgment intact when the rest of the crowd is off balance. A sober wingman can stop someone who thinks they're "OK to drive," or is about to make a choice they'll regret in the morning.

Wingmen also need to know when enough is enough. Some Airmen simply can't stop once they start. A good wingman not only intervenes when his or her buddy's had too much, but gets help if it becomes clear alcohol has control of their buddy's life. The chapel, life skills and first sergeant can often help make the difference between a course correction and fateful crash. They exist to help — but you must let them.

On paper, DUIs and alcohol incidents are statistics. In reality, they are lives changed forever. I don't care much about statistics, and I doubt you do — but we all care about our friends and our families. You'll be hearing more about a "planning tool" called 0-0-1-3. That's *zero* underage drinking; *zero* DUIs; *one* drink an hour; *three* drinks a night. If you stick with that formula, you can enjoy a beer without risk of burial; you are in virtually no danger of ruining your life or someone else's due to alcohol. This approach is worth thinking about, and worth living by.



Photo illustration by Senior Airman Neo Martin

Airmen are reminded to drink responsibly, to have a plan and a wingman. If you need a ride, call Airmen Against Drunk Driving at 687-RIDE (7433).

Standards: How high is your bar?

By Maj. Kelly Kirts

509th Communications Squadron Commander

Today's Air Force is lauded as the world's most effective air and space power. As members of the Air Force, our primary mission is air and space superiority with the ultimate goal of achieving air supremacy. This equates to us having the capability to attack and destroy the enemy's war fighting capacity while denying our adversaries the opportunity to attack us.

In today's expeditionary Air Force, our Airmen are demonstrating daily our power projection capabilities in countries such as Iraq and Afghanistan.

How is the Air Force able to generate such dominant power projection capability? Its secret ingredient is also our most valuable resource — our people.

The Air Force is a large, dynamic organization made up of people representing all regions of the United States. Currently, the Air Force is comprised of approximately 370,000 dedicated professionals. Each member, individually unique, adds diverse cultural, educational and life experiences to the collective organizational culture of the Air Force. With such diversity, how does the Air Force focus the efforts of such a diverse cross section of America?

To start with, we have a couple things in



common. First, we're all Americans. Second, we're volunteers, patriots who serve to protect our country. After that, the similarities are really just coincidences. If you grab any 10 members, it's literally amazing how different we really are.

While our diversity is one of our strengths, it also is the foundation of one of our biggest challenges.

The Air Force must harness the dynamic energy of individuals and channel it into a total synergistic force; a team, that collectively, is more productive than the total of the individual pieces. This is where Air Force standards come into play. The American Heritage Dictionary defines standard

as: "a degree or level of requirement, excellence, or attainment". In other words, standard equals the minimal measure for satisfactory attainment.

In the military, standards serve as guidelines to ensure a minimal level of conformity and consistency. If you ask five people how to accomplish a task, most likely you will receive five different solutions. Even though diversity is a strength to be harnessed, military effectiveness is attained through predictability. In the deadly arena of war, we do not have the luxury for various levels of minimal performance.

Military members take an oath to support and defend the constitution, and to

obey orders according to regulations and the Uniform Code of Military Justice. Basically, we voluntarily agree to support and defend our country as guided by our leaders. We do this by conforming to military requirements and regulations.

Now, not one of us, especially myself, is perfect. Due to the nature of who we are, we have strengths, weaknesses and limitations.

However, regardless of our individual circumstances, we can all strive to meet the minimum standards. If we fail to set our goals high enough, we might not even reach the minimum.

With this thought in mind, I ask, "How high is your bar set?" Do you schedule your day to begin exactly one minute before the start and one minute after the end of your duty day? If you do, who do you blame when inevitable, unexpected events cause you to arrive late? Does your supervisor have to repeatedly point you to the barber shop? Have they had to remind you that it's OK for you to iron your battle dress uniforms and you can use polish on your boots? Is your standard in line with the Air Force's minimum level of attainment? Is your bar set high enough?

Do you always wear your hat, even when you think no one is watching? Like-

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For more information, call the *Whiteman Spirit* office at 687-6133, fax us at 687-7948, e-mail: whiteman.spirit@whiteman.AF.mil or write to us at:

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Deployed 509ers donate supplies to Iraqis

By Master Sgt. Don Perrien

407th Air Expeditionary Group Public Affairs

TALLIL AIR BASE, Iraq — The convoy moves across the desert leaving a pillar of dust in its wake. The first truck approaches a small Bedouin village as the residents tend to their families and flocks. The local Iraqi residents have seen many such groups of trucks pass by in the desert, most bound for Baghdad bringing needed supplies to coalition forces in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

But today, the trucks aren't carrying materials for troops up north — they're bringing relief for families living near Tallil Air Base in southern Iraq.

Operation Reach Out is an initiative managed by the 407th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron and supported by the combined efforts of all Airmen deployed as part of Tallil's 407th Air Expeditionary Group. Airmen solicit and collect items from their neighbors and families back home, to donate to their new neighbors in Iraq.

"Donations come from all over and even people locally buying items," said Senior Airman Marla Bell, 407th ESFS. "People can have items mailed to our address here, or send money donations as well. When people donate money, we buy food for the program."

So far during the AEF 1/2 rotation, Operation Reach Out has made eight trips to visit the families just outside the gates of Tallil. The most recent delivery included approximately 500 pounds of rice, 16 cases of bottled water and a two-and-a-half ton truckload of toys, blankets and other materials.

For the Airmen protecting the convoys, and those delivering the items, this program has made a difference to both the local Iraqi community — and their personal outlook about the mission here in Tallil.

"The reaction you receive from everyone is great," said Airman 1st Class Simone Hurd, 407th ESFS. "It's incredible to see the smiles on the children's faces when they look at their new pair of shoes or a new toy."

"This is one of the most rewarding experiences you could ever have," she said. "It's really an eye opener. You learn to appreciate the things that you have and not to take anything for granted."

Almost everyone who takes part in the Operation Reach Out deliveries is greeted by children who are glad to see them, and parents who are glad for the support.

"We came to this one small family and they were as kind as could be and so grateful for us to be there," said Airman Amber Shirey, who recently returned from a delivery. "There was this tiny girl who couldn't have been more than 2-years-old wearing terribly dirty clothes."

"When we handed her mother new clothes, she immediately handed me her little girl and asked me to help change her out of the old dirty clothes and into the clean ones," Airman Shirey said. "It's doing things like this that really make me feel like we are making a difference here."

Those sentiments are echoed among all the people



Courtesy photo

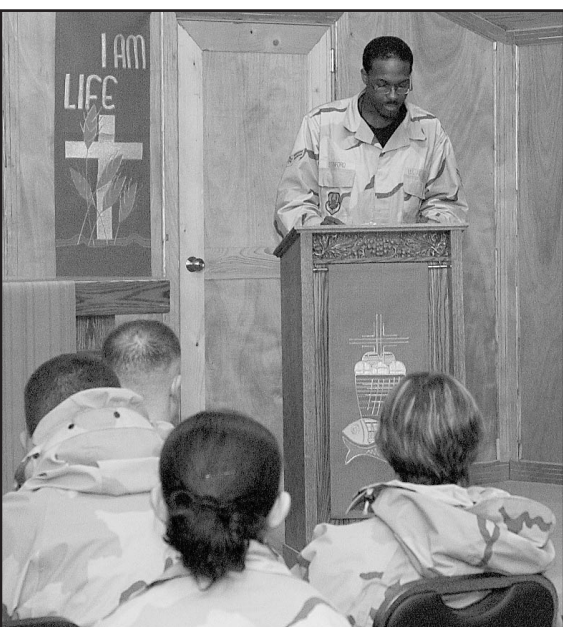
Airman 1st Class Simone Hurd, and Senior Airmen Ken Rains and Marla Bell, 509th Security Forces Squadron, help bring supplies and relief to needy Iraqi families. They are deployed to Talil Air Base, Iraq. Also pictured is Chico, a military working dog.

involved with the Operation Reach Out program. According to these Airmen, the program is an example of the many good things Americans are doing while deployed to Iraq — and deserves their continued support.

"I tell people that this is a good cause, helping the Iraqi people and the United States military to become closer," said Senior Airman Kenneth Rains, 407th ESFS. "Our efforts let them know we are here to help them, and not

hurt them. Operation Reach Out is just one of the many ways we give back to the Iraqi people."

Following another stop delivering goods, the convoy makes its way up the dusty roads headed back to base. The Operation Reach Out volunteers will begin gathering their items in preparation for another trip, hopefully strengthening the bonds between deployed Airmen and their Iraqi neighbors.



Courtesy photo

Airman 1st Class Timothy Stanford, a deployed 509th Bomb Wing member, conducts a Panther's Airmen's Advisory Council meeting.

509er helps organize morale-boosting program

By Senior Airman Colleen Wronek
332nd Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs

BALAD AIR BASE, Iraq — Airmen wanting to leave a legacy here have a chance to do so with the Panther's Airman Advisory Council.

"The PAAC is here for Airmen," said Airman 1st Class Timothy Stanford, 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing chapel assistant and PAAC president. "Our goals are to boost morale, build camaraderie and to have an impact on this rotation and other rotations to come."

The PAAC, which meets weekly, has been here for three rotations.

"I joined the PAAC to make a difference. I saw an opportunity to let people know I'm doing something here and not counting the days down," said Airman 1st Class Joshua Jowers, 332nd Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron and PAAC vice president. "I do count the days down, but not in grief, but what I can accomplish in the little time I have

left."

Improvements start with Airmen wanting change and then other ranks and organizations help out, Airman Stanford, who is deployed from Whiteman AFB, Mo., said. "If Airmen are going to be here for four months, they might as well make their time worthwhile," he said.

"We meet other Airmen that we wouldn't meet," Airman Jowers, who is from Barksdale AFB, La., said. "Together we do something that has a direct impact on Balad."

When the PAAC meets, important issues are addressed such as dorm life, proper wear of physical training gear and what to do to raise morale.

Airman Stanford said PAAC's list of activities includes movie nights, video game tournaments and sports tournaments. There are also plans for a FOD wash fundraiser, in which PAAC members will wash vehicles entering the flight line.

The PAAC also assisted services and the company grade officer council in planning a Super Bowl party.

"We want airmen to look back at their tour and say 'this is what I did in Iraq,'" Airman Jowers said. "We want them to go out and say 'I made a difference and I helped make this place better than it was.'"

There are a few challenges to having an advisory council in a deployed environment. "Work schedules dictate how much Airmen are involved," Airman Stanford said. "A lot of people are unmotivated after working 12 hours. They think if (they're) here for four months, why should they help improve morale and quality of life?"

Airman Stanford said the program helps motivate Airmen to do that.

"We want Airmen to know they are welcome here," Airman Jowers said. "If we can make a difference with 10 people think how much we can do with 100 people."



Photo by Airman 1st Class Lauren Padden

Getting down to brass ‘tax’

Representatives help customers prepare 2004 tax returns. To date, VITA representatives have filed 908 returns for a refund value of \$1,670,981 and saved base members more than \$128,262 in preparation fees as of Wednesday. The Whiteman Tax Office is open from 8 a.m.- 4 p.m. weekdays in the community center. To make an appointment or for more details, call 687-6020.

CS loses member

Airman 1st Class Michael Omar Coleman, 509th Communications Squadron, died Saturday. The cause of Airman Coleman’s death is under investigation.

Airman Coleman arrived at Whiteman March 12, 2004. During his tour here, he served as the help desk technician in the 509th CS Network Control Center. Airman Coleman’s impact to the mission was instantaneous, said Master Sgt. Mark Cherry, 509th CS first sergeant. He made it his goal to become the first Airman in his work center to become “in-station qualified.”

The 21-year-old was born in Charleston, S.C., and joined the Air Force in July 2001. Airman Coleman spent much of his time playing sports and listening to music.

He was a member of his squadron’s intramural volleyball team and was the 509th CS bowling team’s captain. Airman Coleman was also a regular attendee at the chapel; where he would play on the piano for hours. He also supported his squadron by volunteering with the booster club at several events.

“He had a solid reputation as a dedicated and hard-working member of our squadron who would do anything for anyone; he contributed greatly to our mission,” said Maj. Kelly Kirts, 509th CS commander.

The memorial service took place Tuesday at the chapel. The funeral begins at 2 p.m. Saturday at Rehoboth A.M.E., 405 Shell Rd., Chesapeake, Va. The burial service will be at the Chesapeake Memorial Gardens Cemetery in Chesapeake.

Airman Coleman’s awards include the National Defense Service Medal.

Airman Coleman is survived by his father Navy Lt. James Coleman and Queen Coleman. He has one brother, Mariano.



Coleman

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WECO, WOSC offer scholarships

The Whiteman Officers’ Spouses Club and the Enlisted Spouses Club sponsor their annual spouse and graduating high school senior education awards. The application deadline is March 15.

Spouse applicants must:

- ✓ Be a high school graduate or possess a GED equivalent.
- ✓ Be pursuing an undergraduate degree
- ✓ Be or plan to be enrolled as a full-time student at a college or university for the fall 2005 semester.
- ✓ Be the spouse of an active-duty, Reserve or Guard member, retired military member, a deceased military member, or a prisoner of war or missing in action member.
- ✓ Not have earned the scholarship for 2004. However, the applicant will still be considered for textbook awards that may be given.

Application criteria include:

- ✓ Leadership ability.
- ✓ Personal goals.
- ✓ Volunteer and community activities.
- ✓ Career-related experience.
- ✓ Personal interview.
- ✓ Essay.

Applicants must:

- ✓ Complete and sign the application.
- ✓ Have one letter of recommendation from an adult that’s not a relative
- ✓ A maximum two-page typed essay written by the applicant outlining personal goals sought from higher education and why the scholarship is being applied for.
- ✓ Attend the interview at 1 p.m. April 2.

Graduating high school seniors must:

- ✓ Live in the local area and graduate from a high school within 75 miles of Whiteman or be home-schooled.
- ✓ Provide a complete copy of their high

See SCHOOL, Page 14



Courtesy Photo

Tour of duty

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio — Members of the B-2 Systems Group had an opportunity Tuesday to tour the aircraft they support. A B-2, flown by Col. Chris Miller, 509th Bomb Wing commander, and Lt. Col. Terrance Sunnarborg, 509th BW director of staff, landed here as part of a scheduled training mission. The Aeronautical Systems Center arranged for the tour and a media opportunity. “It’s important for us to show the B-2 to the many men and women at Wright-Patterson who support the aircraft and its related systems,” Colonel Miller said. “This helps them understand the warfighting user’s requirements and challenges better, and builds teamwork in an important part of our Air Force’s long-range strike force. We appreciate the work that the professionals at Wright-Patterson do in keeping the B-2 on the leading edge of airpower.”

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Photo illustration by Senior Airman Joe Lacdan

Under changes to Air Force Instruction 36-2903, Dress and Appearance of Air Force Personnel, Air Force members are authorized to wear backpacks over both shoulders.

1st Sergeant's View

(Editor's note: The 1st Sergeant's View gives Whiteman first sergeants a chance to remind people of correct uniform wear, customs and courtesies, and proper military decorum. Each week, a different first sergeant will share their view.)

By Master Sgt. Matthew Cady

509th Services Squadron First Sergeant

Here we are in a new year and, of course, with it comes new changes. Among the many things changing this year will be the dress and appearance instructions. With the implementation of the results of the 96th Air Force Uniform Board, the changes will affect Air Force Instruction 36-2903 Dress and Personal Appearance of Air Force Personnel, and supplement from Air Combat Command and the wing.

Among the changes we'll see is the implementation of the Air Force fitness uniform. Although this is not yet available at clothing sales, word is it will be in stores around mid-year. Air Force members who have received or will be receiving their clothing allowance will notice an increase in the amount. This is due to the new uniform's cost; I would highly recommend that this money be set aside until the uniform is available. There hasn't been a mandatory wear date established.

Other changes from the uniform board are:

- ✓ The lightweight blue jacket is authorized to be worn indoors.
- ✓ The Air Force symbol may be embroidered on the lightweight blue jacket.
- ✓ A black scarf is the only color authorized for wear with Air Force uniforms.
- ✓ The backpack is authorized to be worn over both shoulders.
- ✓ Only solid-color black backpacks are authorized with the blues uniform and only olive-drab, solid color black or woodland camouflage backpacks are allowed with BDUs.
- ✓ Black hairpins, combs, headbands, elastic bands and barrettes are authorized with all female hair colors.
- ✓ Members may not place hands in pockets while in uniform.

This is only a sample of the 39 changes. There were also 61 recommendations that were disapproved by the board.

There was also a change to Whiteman's supplement dealing with the black stocking cap. It reads:

"Stocking (Navy watch) cap may be worn with the field jacket, gortex or parka from Nov. 1 to April 1, within the confines of Whiteman. The cap is not authorized for wear off the installation. (Exception) in the immediate work area watch cap may be worn with or without field jacket, gortex or parka."

Not all scenarios are covered by the instructions. If a certain situation is not addressed in the AFI, then it's probably not authorized. If you have questions about uniform wear policy, the first step is to look it up yourself. If you still can't find it or have questions, talk to your supervisor or first sergeant.

I don't think there's anyone out there who likes stopping people on the street and correcting their appearance, but as Airmen we are required to correct violations if we see them, no matter what the rank of the violator. As long as you're courteous and tactful, you're looking out for the best interests of our great Air Force.

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Courtesy photo

Deployed four more

Maj. Bryce Thorpe, 509th Comptroller Squadron commander, re-enlists Senior Airman Laurence Holter, 509th CPTS, on board a Marine CH-53 helicopter. Major Thorpe and Airman Holter are deployed to Djibouti, Africa.

STANDARDS, from Page 2

when you think no one is watching? Likewise, do you always wear your seat belt? Have you ever parked your car in an illegal parking spot, and then scurried inside in an attempt not to get caught? Even worse, do you think the fire lane applies to all others except you because you are using the automatic teller machine? Do you pay your respects during retreat, or do you scamper into a building or a car so you don’t have to salute our flag? Do you put forth the honest effort required to demonstrate your knowledge during your career development course exams? Again, I ask, “How high is your bar set?”

Integrity has been defined as doing the right thing, even when no one is looking. It is also one of our Air Force core values. At one time or another, I’ve witnessed each of the previously mentioned situations on this base. While I was surprised and disappointed by each instance, I was hurt even more by the lame excuses provided as justification of unacceptable behavior. Displaying integrity is a lot harder than saying you have integrity. Integrity also deals with owning responsibility for choices that people make or the actions they have done.

Our individual backgrounds cause us to see the world differently.

However, despite this individuality, there is one more thing we still have in common. Each of us, as a part of the Air Force family, represent the other 370,000 Air Force members with our deeds and our actions. We each have an individual responsibility in representing one another in a positive, professional and dignified manner. The actions of one individual, no matter how obscure, project on the rest of our Air Force family.

With that thought in mind, I ask you to consider honestly, “How high is your bar really set?” You voluntarily took an oath to join this exclusive family. Now that you’re one of us, you also have a responsibility to represent us. Whether on base or off, in uniform or not, during the weekdays and most importantly on the weekends, you represent the Air Force. The headline always starts with “Air Force officer” or “Whiteman staff sergeant.” Your presence, your actions and your character reflect on us all. “Is your bar set high enough?”

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Whiteman Spirit Award



Staff Sgt. Amanda Rodriguez

715th Weapons Squadron

Staff Sgt. Amanda Rodriguez, 715th Weapons Squadron, received the Whiteman Spirit Award from Col. Chris Miller, 509th Bomb Wing commander, Monday.

Lt. Col. Glen VanHerck, 715th WPS commander, nominated Sergeant Rodriguez for the award.

Sergeant Rodriguez was the only distinguished graduate in her class at the Aviation Resource Management School. Air Combat Command named her an outstanding performer for her efforts during the Nuclear Surety Inspection.

Sergeant Rodriguez was also the coordinated the 715th's change-of-command ceremony while the rest of the squadron was deployed in December.

"She truly has the attitude and spirit we need in all our troops," Colonel VanHerck said.

Personally Speaking

Time on station: 4 years, 3 months

Time in service: 4 years, 7 months

Hometown: Chaparral, N.M.

Spouse: Senior Airman Alex Rodriguez, 509th Civil Engineer Squadron.

Children: Elizabeth, 1

Hobbies: Watching movies, spending time with my family and camping.

Goals: To get my degree in human services so I can help others.

Best thing about Whiteman: The friendly people and the teamwork atmosphere

Pet Peeves: Negative attitudes.

What motivates your winning spirit? The determination and drive to get things done right the first time.

If you could change one thing about Whiteman, what would it be? Make it a little bit closer to the city and airport.

Need a
Wingman? **Call the Whiteman Help Hotline:**
1-866-395-4357

Confidential crisis counseling available 24/7

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advertisements**

Spirit Spotlights

... on Airmen Against Drunk Driving members:

Airmen 1st Class Keleisha Myers, 509th Civil

Engineer Squadron; **Cendy Mascrier**, 509th Logis-

tics Readiness Squadron; **Christina Blache**, 509th

Communications Squadron; **Timothy Canforna**,

509th Logistics Readiness Squadron; **Lisa Hal-**

stead, 509th Services Squadron; **Emmanuel Aco-**

sta, **Roberta Czepiel**, 509th Munitions Squadron;

Senior Airmen Robert Kereszi, 509th CS; **Tracy**

Woods, 72nd Test and Evaluation Squadron;

Valerie Deverney, 72 Test and Evaluation

Squadron; **Anthony Muller**, 509th CS; **Zachariah**

Giguere, 509th CES; **Robert Kereszi**, 509th CS;

Joyce Baum, 509th Medical Support Squadron;

Katie Weems, 394th Combat Training Squadron;

Staff Sgts. Khaalis Hall, 509th Operations Support

Squadron; **Senequa Harris**, 509th Maintenance

Squadron; **Tech. Sgts. Jesse Lee**, 509th OSS;

Loren Cheney, 509th Maintenance Group; **Michael**

Mitchell, 509th Security Forces Squadron; **Chief**

Master Sgt. Vicki Orcutt, 509th Bomb Wing; **2nd**

Lt. Mary Olsen, 509th BW; and **John Orcutt** for

collectively saving 686 lives during November,

December and January.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Lauren Padden

Tops in Blue performers Airman 1st Class David Weaver and 1st Lt. Carlos Jayme dual on their fiddles during the “Musicology” show at the Mathewson Exhibition Center in Sedalia recently. Tops in Blue is an all active duty Air Force special unit that tours worldwide to entertain military members and their families.



Photo by 2nd Lt. Mary Olsen

Connie Koch, community center director, talks with one of the Tops in Blue performers after the show.

TOPS IN BLUE

The Air Force’s premier entertainment show visited Sedalia Feb. 4. Celebrating 50 years of entertainment history, Tops in Blue represents the Air Force as one of the oldest and most widely traveled entertainment groups of its kind.

Maj. Al Reilly, now a retired colonel, created the Air Force worldwide talent contest in 1953. The goal was to recognize talented Airmen in various categories ranging from comedy, drama, vocals, gospel, vocal and instrumental groups, country and western, and several others.

His idea was to discover the highest caliber of entertainment and provide it for Air Force families throughout the world, thus the phrase “family entertaining family” was adopted in the new Air Force talent program.

Major Reilly knew there were many Air Force athletic competitions, but there was nothing for those who were otherwise talented.

The contest provided an excellent setting for the up and coming Air Force entertainers to display their skills.

The top talent was selected from the competition and formed into a troupe featuring the best Air Force entertainers which ultimately became known as Tops in Blue.

The debut tour traveled on a grueling trek, giving 230 shows in 235 days. That breakneck pace continues today.

Each team begins the tour with an intense 45-day training period at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas. This training consists of a highly accelerated educational process to prepare them to succeed as world-class entertainers and distinguished Air Force ambassadors during their nine-month tour.

Most shows are not performed at the same location twice. The cast must unpack, set up, do the show, tear down, pack it up, and drive or fly to the next place each time.

The first cast entertained more than 320,000 active-duty military members and their families, firmly planting the Tops in Blue seed and cultivating the deepest dedication by this initial group of performers. *(Adapted from <http://www.afsv.af.mil/TIB>)*



Photo by 2nd Lt. Mary Olsen

Dave Rouchka, Sedalia Military Affairs Committee member, serves food to one of the Tops in Blue performers after the show. The Sedalia MAC supplied food and refreshments for the performers and other military members.



Photo by 2nd Lt. Mary Olsen

Col. Chris Miller, 509th Bomb Wing commander, addresses the crowd before giving the members of Tops in Blue B-2 commemorative lapel pins.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Lauren Padden

Senior Airman Antonio Dandridge, Tops in Blue performer, sings with the TIB cast during a free show at the Mathewson Exhibition Center in Sedalia. Senior Airman Dandridge is a heating and air conditioning journeyman with the 35th Civil Engineer Squadron stationed at Misawa Air Base, Japan.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Lauren Padden

Senior Airman Erin Holzapfel sings during the Tops in Blue performance Feb. 4. Airman Holzapfel is a medical technician with the 105th Medical Group, New York Air National Guard. TIB is an Air Force special unit made up of amateur performers selected for their entertainment abilities. Each year, thousands compete in base talent contests to earn a spot on the team. The result is an elite group composed of 35 of the most talented vocalists, musicians, and dancers. Airmen who are interested in becoming TIB performers can contact the Air Force entertainment office at 210-562-6566 or DSN 487-6566. Applications can be downloaded from the Air Force Services Web site at <http://www.afsv.af.mil>.



Photo by Senior Airman Neo Martin

Construction

Larry Husk, of Husk Masonry, Sedalia, builds a post that will support a fence surrounding the new above-ground fuel storage tanks. The construction is part of the ongoing shoppette renovation project that is scheduled for completion this spring.

SCHOOL, from Page 6

school transcripts. They must be signed and certified by counselors, to include grades to date, current class standing and ACT/SAT scores.

- ✓ Include a resume, to include activities in the school and community, outside employment, honors or awards received, and any other pertinent information.

- ✓ A signed statement of understanding, which is attached to the application.

- ✓ A typed statement discussing the most influential historical figure in your life. The statement must not exceed 300 typed words.

The most competitive high school seniors will be interviewed and judged on class rank, grade point average, ACT/SAT scores, activities, leadership, essay and interview.

Applications are available from squadron first sergeants, the library, education center and family support center. High school applications are also available at area guidance counselor's offices.

The completed application must be postmarked no later than March 15 and be sent to Kristen Brechwald, 703 Shamrock Lane, Warrensburg MO 64093. (*Courtesy of the WOSC and WECO*)

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What's happening

Assessment survey set

The base training and education services flight is conducting a needs assessment survey to gauge the educational needs of the Whiteman community. Active-duty military, dependents, civilians, and contractors are asked to complete the survey. To access the survey, visit <https://afvec.langley.af.mil/> and click on "Take the Survey." Feedback and comments are vital in ensuring the base training and education services flight offers programs that fit your needs.

MSA to conduct inventory

The munitions storage area will conduct a 100 percent inventory Feb. 28-March 4. Requests should be scheduled by Tuesday. Only valid emergency issue requests will be processed during the duration of the inventory. For more details, call munitions accountability at 687-4465 or 687-4456.

Nomination deadline set

Nominations for the Air Force Volunteer Excellence Award are due to the family support center by March 11.

The award was established to recognize federal civilians, family members, and military and federal retirees who perform outstanding volunteer community service of a sustained, direct and consequential nature. Because of its significance, only four people from Whiteman will be recognized

during the annual volunteer reception April 27. For more information, call Bob Berger at 687-1222.

Free spouses training offered

The Air Force Aid Society is paying for training classes to teach entry-level employment skills to spouses of active-duty Air Force members. The goal of the training is to enhance immediate employment opportunities.

Classes include medical terminology at State Fair Community College, Microsoft Office at SFCC, career orientation and workplace skills at Central Missouri State University, and Kitchen Production at CMSU.

Registration for these classes are on a first-come, first-served basis, and are limited to 10 students each and one class per spouse. However, spouses can place their name on a waiting list for any other class of their choice.

For more details or to sign up, call the FSC at 687-7123.

Parent meeting set

Whiteman Elementary School is hosting an afternoon seminar teaching parents how to help their children succeed in school. The seminar begins at 2 p.m. Wednesday in room A-7 at the school.

Refreshments and door prizes will be provided. For more details, call Sarah Willard at 563-3443.



Photo by Senior Airman Neo Martin

Hatititude

Members of the Red Hat Society women's social club met at Mission's End recently for an induction ceremony, craft project and luncheon. Whiteman's chapters of the Red Hats, the Mad Rad Hatters, was formed nearly one month ago and has 17 members. The Red Hat Society is a global nonprofit organization open to women 50 and over. Women under 50 can also join as pink hatters. The group plans shopping trips, luncheons and various day trips. "It's all about having fun, mentoring and laughing decked out in our regalia," said Connie Koch, founder of Whiteman's chapter of the Red Hat Society. To learn more about or join the Red Hatters visit <http://www.redhatsociety.com> or call Mrs. Koch at 687-5617.

Niner Line

E-mail 9r.Line@whiteman.af.mil

Whiteman's Niner Line provides a communication channel for you to obtain information and assistance in making Whiteman a better place to live and work.

Before calling the Niner Line, try to resolve your particular problem with the responsible base agency.

If you've exhausted all the normal avenues to resolve the situation, then call Col. Chris Miller, 509th Bomb Wing commander, via e-mail 9r.Line@whiteman.af.mil.

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Memory of fallen friend lifts CS to triumph

'This one's for Mike'

By Senior Airman Joe Lacdan
Public Affairs

Creighton Chilcote entered Tuesday's intramural basketball championship against the 509th Maintenance Squadron with a heavy heart.

Chilcote and his 509th Communications Squadron teammates sported wristbands with the words "R.I.P. Coleman," inscribed. One of Chilcote's best friends, Michael Coleman, a CS member and intramural volleyball player, died Saturday.

Coleman's memory and a gritty defensive performance helped CS hold off MXS 41-39 and finish the season undefeated at 13-0. Tyron Wright buried a 19-foot jumper at the buzzer to seal the win.

"We said right before the game, we'd come out and win it for Mike," said Chilcote, who scored a game-high 20 points.

"A lot of the team was close to (Coleman)," said Wright. "That weighed heavy on the minds of a lot of the players."

Team members considered postponing the game in the wake of the tragedy, but later decided to play and dedicate the game to Coleman.

"The guys said, 'We want to win this game for Michael,'" CS coach Robert Turpin said. "It was very emotional."

CS played through its emotions to withstand a furious second half rally by MXS. The contest was in doubt until the final minute with both squads getting chances at victory.

MXS player Anthony Evans missed a wide-open 20-footer with 12 seconds remaining. CS corralled the rebound and called a timeout to set up Wright's winning basket.

After a slow start, two straight threes by Chilcote gave CS a 9-6 first quarter edge. Chilcote, who hit five three-point field goals during the game, drained another late in the second quarter to give CS a 23-16 halftime lead.

"It just took us awhile to get settled down and run off that extra emotion and get into the flow of the game," said Wright, who scored 11 points.

MXS, which finishes at 11-3 (2-1 in the tournament), inserted four guards into the starting lineup to offset CS's size advantage. CS boasts 6-foot-7 Bryan Green and the 6-5 Wright. The strategy resulted in numerous CS turnovers and MXS used its quickness to keep the game close. When MXS faced CS earlier this season, the game was close until a 15-2 third-quarter run allowed CS to blow open the contest, winning 72-52.

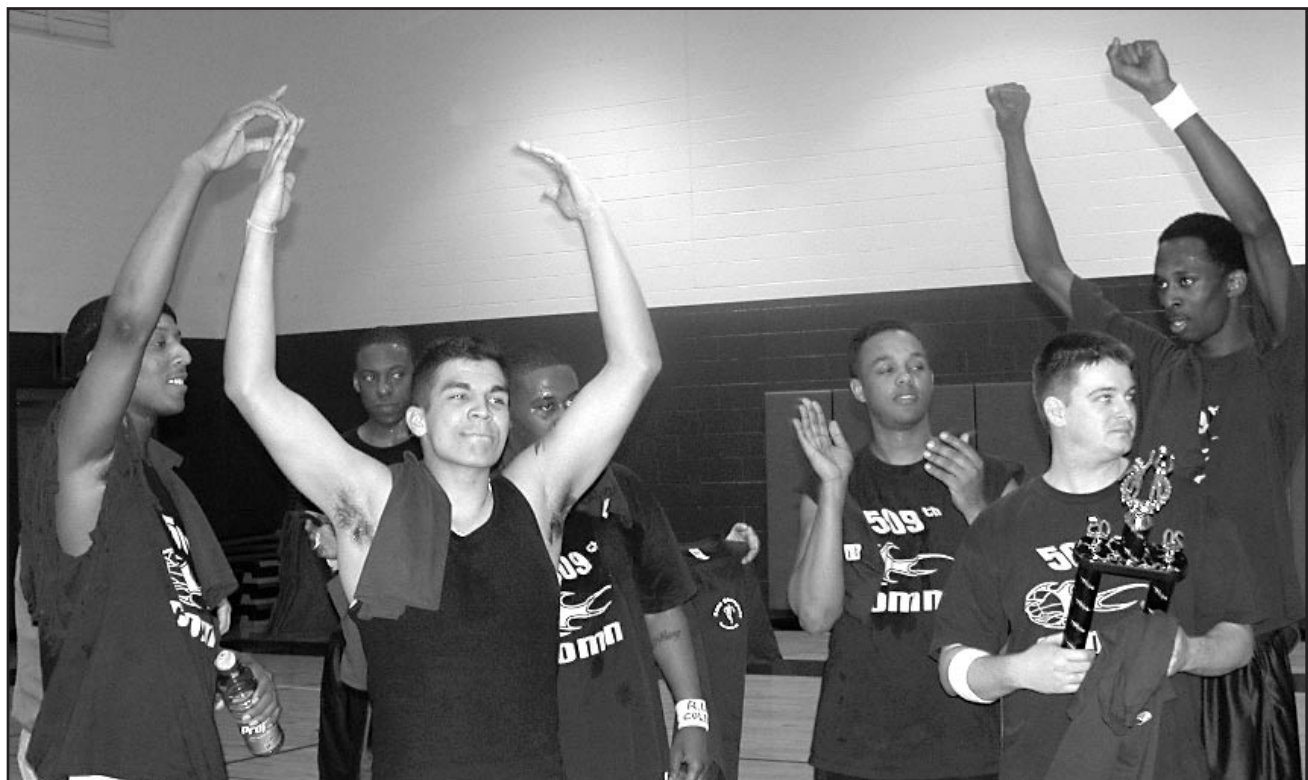


Photo by Senior Airman Joe Lacdan

Members of the 509th Communications Squadron celebrate their 41-39 victory over the 509th Maintenance Squadron, in the intramural championship Tuesday. Team members dedicated the win to the late Michael Coleman, a CS member who passed away Saturday.

Tuesday night, MXS trailed CS by seven, but used hounding defense to frustrate the CS big men, MXS coach Ray White said. Trailing 30-21 early in the third quarter, MXS went on an 8-0 run to narrow the deficit to 30-29.

"Our guards were able to keep their big men from going inside," White said.

MXS seized the lead 33-32 with less than six minutes remaining after Evans (10 points) scooped up a loose ball and banked in a layup.

"We played our hearts out," White said. "(CS) made their shot at the end."

While solid defense allowed MXS to keep the contest close, CS proved it could play defense pretty well too. Green used his height advantage to block or alter most shots in the paint. Pressure "D" by CS forced late

turnovers.

"We press all season long," Coach Turpin said. "Defense was our goal from the beginning. Our motto was you don't play defense, you don't play."

CONSOLATION CHAMPIONSHIP: The 2004 intramural champs, the 509th Security Forces Squadron, fell to the 509th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron 47-45 in the consolation championship. With 22 seconds remaining, SFS player Damien Needom drained a three to knot the score at 45-45. Dominique Nevers banked in a layup to give AMXS the go-ahead score. A last-second three by Needom rimmed out.

AMXS (8-5, 2-1 in the tournament) was led by Markel Hill's 17 points and Nevers' 16. SFS, which was playing without starter Kevin Jacovino, was led by Michael Mitchell's 19 points. Chris Bishop added 14 for SFS.

This space is reserved for advertisements



Bowling Standings

Wednesday Intramural League (Week 21 of 34
current as of Feb. 10)

Team	Wins	Losses
CES A	122	46
AMXS	121	47
MDG A	114	54
OSS	110	58
MXS A	98	70
CPTS	96	72
SVS	94	74
MUNS	80	88
SFS	79	89
MSS/BW	76	92
MXS B	74	94
COMM	65	103
MOS	60	108
CES B	56	112
CES C	54	114
BLIND	45	123

Get fit, Stay fit in 2005

WHITEMAN AFB MO 509TH SERVICES Combat Support & Community Service

Services Page editor.....Jamie Jennings
509th Services Squadron.....687-6525
*No federal endorsement of mentioned sponsors intended.

Sports & Recreation

Outdoor Recreation 687-5565

Overtime rock climbing

Open climbing is available 5:30-9 p.m. today for certified climbers. A certification class takes place 6-8 p.m. The course for new climbers will show basic rock climbing skills, encourage teamwork and use of equipment.

Wall climbing class

A certification class takes place 9-11 a.m. Saturday. The course for new climbers will show basic rock climbing skills, encourage teamwork and use of equipment.

Couples Ice Skating

Take your sweetheart to the Ice Sports Arena 10 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Feb. 26. The cost of \$10 includes transportation to Shawnee, Kan., and skating. Bring money for lunch and snacks. Sign up by Thursday.

Food & Fun

Mission's End 687-4422

Gaust huas nacht

Members can take advantage of the week's \$1 special 5-7 p.m. today. Tonight's special is German cuisine.

Sunday afternoon brunch

Brunch takes place 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Feb. 27. The menu includes: scrambled eggs, sausage, hash browns, biscuits and gravy, roast beef, seafood (baked or grilled), rice, mashed potatoes, vegetables, salad, fruit, desserts and drinks. The cost is \$10 for people ages 13 and older, \$8 for ages 6-12 and \$2 for ages 5 and younger. Club members and their families receive \$2 off.

Valentine's day winners



Lt. Col. Steven and Angie Basham, 393rd Bomb Squadron, won a diamond heart necklace from Bischell Jewelry*.



Maj. Bruce and Christine Bartholomew, 509th Logistics Readiness Squadron, won a family getaway to the Great Wolf Lodge*.

Movie Schedule

Friday & Saturday

Racing Stripes 7 p.m. PG
Starring — Hayden Panettiere and voice of Frankie Muniz

Sunday

Elektra 5:30 p.m. PG-13
Starring — Jennifer Garner and Terence Stamp

Adults: \$3.50 Children: \$1.75
Movie Recording Line: 687-5110

Movies subject to change due to availability.

For current and future movie listings log on to
<http://www.aafes.com/ems/conus/whiteman.htm>.

Tickets & Travel 687-5643

It's cruise time at Tickets & Travel. Sato Travel announced 2005 cruise specials. Stop by 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesdays-Saturdays in the skills development center.

Community Activities

Skills Development Center 687-5691

Custom frame sale

The skills development center offers a 20 percent discount on all orders placed and paid for during February.

Craft fair

A craft fair and adult art show takes place 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday at Mission's End. There is no vendor fee. Vendors are asked to display, sell and actively demonstrate how they create their crafts. Participants must sign up at the skills development center by today.

Veterinary Clinic 687-2667

Does your pet have bad breath?

The vet clinic now carries a large selection of dental products for your furry friends. The staff has toothpaste, water additives, and greenies chews to help your pet with oral hygiene. Call or stop by or facility at 401 Lockbourne Terrace between 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays or 8:30-2:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Family Child Care 687-1180

Have a profitable home-based career

Providers are needed to provide care for the following: evenings, weekends, swing shift workers, infants, special needs and mildly-ill children. providers with chronic health problems are accepted. The Air Force is now offering a subsidy for providers who are willing to meet this critical need. Providers who hold a standard license are subsidized \$125 a week per qualifying child. Call 687-5590 or 687-1180 for more information.

Youth Center 687-5586

Trip to the Great American Gymnastics

Second through seventh graders can join friends at the youth center 5:30-10 p.m. today for a van ride to Blue Springs, Mo. Youths will be provided a sack lunch. Once at the Great American Gymnastics center, youth can climb the rock wall, play slam dunk basketball, use the inflat-



Kids with heart

Tandy Mitchell, recreation assistant,, show participants an iguana and a tarantula at a youth center benefit for the Boys and Girls Club Tsunami Relief Effort. Other activities during this Feb. 11 event included face painting, a demonstration by a military working dog, family bingo and cookie decorating.

able slides, rope swings and more. The cost is \$7 for members and \$8.50 for nonmembers.

Coach pitch, T-ball registration

Kindergartners through seventh graders can pick up a registration packet 6:30 a.m.-6 p.m. March 1-14 at the youth center. Completed packets can be returned for enrollment 7 a.m.- 1 p.m. March 14 or 12 p.m.-8 p.m. March 15. Enrollment will not be allowed if registration packets are incomplete. The cost is \$30 for members and \$38 for nonmembers. Participants must be 5-years-old before March 1.

Volunteer coaches are needed

Coaches are need for kindergartners through 12th graders coach pitch, softball, T-ball and baseball. Training and certification are provided by the youth center. Stop by the youth center to pick a volunteer packet. Call the 687-3199 for information and to sign up.

Teen Center 687-5819

Snow Creek ski trip

Teens take a ski trip 9 a.m. Saturday until noon Sunday to Snow Creek Resort in Weston, Mo. Teens will eat dinner and spend the night at Fort Leavenworth, Kan., lodging. The \$10 fee includes lift pass, ski rental, lodging, transportation and dinner. Bring money for extra snacks and breakfast. Sign up by today.

Teen bowling

Teens can bowl at the Stars & Strikes 6-10 p.m. Feb 25. Teens should bring money for games and shoes.

Midnight Basketball

Join friends and family for a few games of pick up basketball 9 p.m.-midnight Feb 26..

Community Center 687-5617

Adopt a veteran, help a hero

During February, veterans will be matched with a young person stationed at Whiteman. This person should visit their veteran at least one hour a week. Each person must complete a brief questionnaire to volunteer.